

MIAMI COUNTY COUNCIL
25 NORTH BROADWAY
PERU, INDIANA 46970
March 17, 2015

Councilman Manning – Present
Councilwoman Harp – Present
Councilman Boyer – Present
Councilman Wood – Present
Councilman Wiles – Present
Councilwoman Mull – Absent
Councilman Duckwall – Present

Council President Ralph Duckwall called the meeting to order.

Councilman Wiles led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

MINUTES

Councilman Manning made a motion to approve the February 17, 2015 minutes. Councilman Boyer 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION/TRANSFERS

CUM COURTHOUSE – Sheriff Department vehicle reimbursement

On Christmas Day, last year, one of the Sheriff cars was involved in an accident. The money from the Insurance Company went back into the Cum Courthouse fund and therefore needs re-appropriated for the replacement car. Councilman Manning made a motion to approve the appropriation. Councilwoman Harp 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

COUNTY GENERAL – Sheriff

The Sheriff has one maintenance person for the entire jail. He is on call 24/7/365 and is extremely knowledgeable of the workings of the jail. The Sheriff is asking for part time money to be appropriated in order to hire a part time maintenance person to learn about maintenance of the jail and relieve some of the stress and allow the maintenance person to take some time off without being called in. The Sheriff is asking for \$15 per hour and 25 hours a week. If the Council grants the appropriation and he is able to hire someone by April 1, he will only need an appropriation of \$15,000. Councilman Boyer knows the complexity of the jail and is sure the current maintenance person saves us a great deal of money. Councilman Wood asked if the person would receive insurance benefits. The Sheriff stated as a part time person, he would not receive any benefits. Councilman Manning has taken a tour of the jail and realizes the difficulty of the position, and made a motion to approve the appropriation for a part time maintenance man. Councilman Wiles 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

HIGHWAY - Insurance

Josh Francis, Chairman of the Commissioners, stated that the Highway has agreed to appropriate \$200,000 from Highway Phase 1 for insurance. Councilman Wiles made a motion to approve the appropriation. Councilman Boyer 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

HEALTH MAINTENANCE FUND

Ken Scott, Environmental Specialist, informed the Council that the State now requires all reports to be submitted electronically. The Health Department has grant money in the Health Maintenance Fund that would allow them to purchase two tablets they could take out into the field with them. The request to have \$2,400 appropriated for the purpose of purchasing the two tablets

has been approved by both the Health Board and the State. Councilman Boyer made a motion to approve the appropriation. Councilwoman Harp 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

C.E.D.I.T.

Brooke Robertson explained that \$7,400 is needed for payment due for the Comprehensive Plan. Councilman Manning made a motion to approve. Councilwoman Harp 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

MCEDA

Brooke Robertson presented a request from IMPA Solar Farms to increase the abatement. The investment would increase to \$5,360,000 due to the increasing of the Solar panels to 11,850. They are asking for a 10 year abatement on personal property for 10 years at 60%. The County would receive \$64,320 a year. Councilman Manning made a motion to approve. Councilman Wood 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

Mrs. Robertson presented an invoice for \$28,415 from the North Central Indiana Regional Planning Council and requested advertising the appropriation for the April meeting.

APPOINTMENT

President Duckwall informed the Board that the Council is responsible for an appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Ken Spangler is the current appointment and is willing to continue to serve on that Board. Councilman Wood made a motion to reappoint Ken Spangler to the Board of Zoning Appeals (term – 1-1-2015 – 12-31-18). Councilman Manning 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

REQUEST FOR AUDIENCE

SHERIFF

The Sheriff presented the year-end report for the Sheriff Department/Jail. The Sheriff stated that the jail receives a state inspection every year and has easily passed each year with the notation that there should be a staffing study performed. For the Sheriff's protection and the protection of the County he needs to have a staffing study done some time this year.

Sheriff Miller also brought an attachment showing short term and long term needs for the Council to look at. The Sheriff explained some of the items on the list.

Attachment-1

Maintenance and upkeep of the jail:

At this time, there are no immediate major repairs needed, only minor repairs and general maintenance. A good program of preventative maintenance is crucial to maintain the safe and efficient operation of the facility.

Unfunded projects and needs essential to the jail:

As previously stated, having a program of preventive maintenance is a large part of the present and future operation of the facility. Although the facility is 5 years old, there are some needs that should be addressed both short and long term.

Extra Stock of Parts

Having an on hand supply of mission critical motors, pumps, valves, (est.) in stock so that when systems fail, down time is limited and costs are reduced in afterhours orders and shipping. It is estimated that \$7,500 be allocated each year to maintain this inventory.

Lint Filtering System on Laundry Dryers

When the jail was designed and built, a design oversight has the lint vents for the two large laundry dryers empty directly over one of the main HVAC cooling units for the facility. The lint build-up has caused numerous issues with the operation of the heating and cooling system and long term damage to the condenser coils of the unit. A filtering solution to capture the lint has been proposed at a projected cost of \$40,000

Replace HVAC RTU Unit -3 Condenser Coil

The long term effects of lint plugging the condenser coils has resulted in repeated failures of the unit during warm weather conditions and high service call repair costs from HVAC service providers and replacement parts. The replacement of the coil at a projected cost of \$18,000 along with the installation of a lint filtering system would greatly reduce maintenance costs and improve efficiency of the HVAC system, while also reducing long term energy costs.

Update Jail Surveillance Camera and Recording System

The Miami County Jail currently has 109 cameras and 7 DVR's to help maintain the safe and efficient operation of the facility. We have been strongly advised by our Indiana Sheriff's attorney to add redundant cameras in certain areas of the jail to increase safety and reduce liability. It has also been recommended that video be stored for up to two years in the event of civil or criminal actions involving the jail. Critical areas were identified and a system of 14 additional cameras and media storage of a minimum of 293 days has been proposed to supplement the current camera/DVR system at a cost of \$58,309.00. It is highly recommended that a long term strategy be implemented to upgrade the current camera system to newer technology to increase the effectiveness and media retention. This strategy should include both camera and audio monitoring capability. This would make the camera technology in the entire facility compatible, reduce long term repair costs, and greatly increase the level of safety throughout the jail.

Shower Solenoid Valves for Cellblocks

It is recommended that the jail look toward the acquisition of shower solenoid valves to facilitate the management of water use by inmates. This would reduce the unnecessary waste of water and the associated cost of utilities. These valves can be programmed to turn on and off showers at pre-determined times, reducing waste while still providing the required environmental and hygiene standards prescribed by Indiana Jail Standards. The retrofit cost per shower is \$590. The Miami County Jail has a total of 64 shower valves for an estimated total project cost of \$38,000

Additional Long-Term Needs and Considerations

1. **Parking lot sealed and lined to increase life of pavement. \$60,000**
2. **Ice breaker/gutter guards over Sally Port to protect vehicles from falling ice. \$2,500**
3. **Storage building to store lawn and snow removal equipment \$30,000**
4. **Maintenance vehicle-for plowing and hauling of equipment/parts \$12,000**

Councilman Manning asked if the cost for the parking lot was for an outside firm or having the County Highway doing it. Councilman Boyer stated the Highway did the parking lot for Ivy Tech and it didn't go very well.

Councilman Wiles asked about the maintenance vehicle. The Sheriff stated that he currently uses his own vehicle and the \$12,000 would include a plow attachment.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Councilman Manning informed the Council that the Planning and Zoning had approved the Comprehensive Plan and it has been sent to the City and Towns for their comment.

The Council had a discussion regarding moving the July meeting to the 4H Fairgrounds, as they have been, because of it being during Circus week and the noise and parking are issues. Councilman Manning made a motion to move the July Council meeting to the fairgrounds. Councilman Wiles 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

President Duckwall asked the Council to consider August 25, 26, and 27 as dates for the budget hearings. The Council will decide on the dates next month.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Councilman Wood made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Harp 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted

Jane Lilley

Miami County Auditor